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RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT 0103
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0496
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1744
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2265

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PARIS AND LONDON FOR AFRICA WATCHERS; AF/C FOR DAS SWAN, RABAT FOR
LEGATT

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [CD](#) [LY](#)

SUBJECT: CHAD REBEL GROUP ISSUES PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING SEIZED
AMCIT

REF: NDJAMENA 810

¶1. The Paris-based Chad opposition web site "Al-Wihda"
(alwihdainfo.com) has carried a number of postings concerning
American Cash Steven Godbold, seized by the MDJT on October 12 in
Zoumri, Chad, including one by the group which claims to have seized
him. We cannot attest to the authenticity of any of these
statements.

¶2. In an October 18 statement posted on Al-Wihda the MDJT issued
the following press release (Embassy translation from the original
French):

Begin text:

MDJT would like to inform national and international readership and
the neighboring countries of Chad that it has detained an American
citizen by the name of Cash Steven Jodold (sic) since October 10,
¶2007. Mr. Jodold, born in 1959 in Florida has fraudulently entered
the territories under the control of MDJT. We suspect this
individual to be sent by the regime of Ndjama in order to create a
division inside the Movement. The regime does not hesitate to use
any means in order to divide the Chadian people. Thanks to our
vigilance we have been able to arrest this mercenary at the service
of the Chadian regime. We ask all foreigners not to venture into
the regions under the control of MDJT.

Furthermore, the MDJT high command has warned the MPS [ruling party]
regime against any attempt to take back its agent by force.

We are willing to release this individual to his country of origin.
We assure the detainee's family that he is in good health and well
treated.

Issued in Zoumri on 10-13-2007
Assistant Secretary General of MDJT
Hissein Yaya Barka

Tel: 008821650207934

End text.

¶3. An October 18 posting by Ousmane Hissein, based in Paris and
described as the "Political Adviser and Spokesman for the MDJT"
condemned the seizure as a cowardly and terrorist act. He said that
it had been carried out by former MDJT President Choua Dazi at the
behest of President Quaddafi. The motive for the seizure, according
to Hissein, was that Quaddafi viewed the presence of Americans in
Tibesti as "espionage in his back yard" and a hindrance to his
expansionist ambitions in Chad. An October 20 posting by another
group, the Council for the Reform and Promotion of the MDJT (French

acronym CIP/MDJT) by spokesman Severin Dingaoro (also based in Paris), strongly condemned the seizure.

4. Tripoli minimize considered.
Tamlyn